BOSTON
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is apparent to the Public though difficult to
In fact the duties of Judge of Probate require the ga
mind of our Judiciary; and the importance of that
of its incumbent may be long concealed from the nature
of the business & the character of the parties to the proceedings
in that court. In settlement of estates, considerable time generally
elapses before complaints are openly made in respect
to rights of heirs or injuries by deceased testaments
And if any legal measures are taken they are tested
in the Supreme Court. And it is for an acknowledged
wise and learned mind of the Probate Judge to prevent
wrongs & injuries to innocent & ignorant parties at first.
The general judgment of unbiassed minds of the bar
is that E. S. Loring is not competent to fill the office
And that his nomination has caused more expensive litigation
& strife from settlement of estates than has ever been
experienced before.
Loring's personal habits of life though not so really vicious
as those of Cushing yet betray a want of principle &
solid discretion we might not expect from a man in his
position, And his familiar acquaintance in the City of
Boston & at Cambridge bespeak but little in his favor.
But such considerations would be impertinent here if it not
that they prove that the "Judicial Ermine" sacred from
public censure "for a life time" may cover a weak & impris-
-oned imbecile, too weak to exhibit an open vice.
Yet in his office he guilty of worse than murder as I think
his acts in Burns affair are. Yrs. truly - & zealously in the
good cause of Abolition. Wm. R. Parks.

His public life has exposed only his real personal character. His political intrigues, the cowardly subterfuges of his so-called 'wife's letters', & vulgarly denominated "Shirt-flap letter" — his debauched & tyrannical career as an Officer in the Mexican war, for which he has since suffered, by being compelled to purchase silence of the Complainants — are but shadows of the base treachery in business life & in the social relations of life of which he has been guilty —

His defence of Loring presents the sorry spectacle, of an unprincipled villain's defending an unprincipled imbecile — Allow me to say of Loring that I have known him for many years. By himself he is perfectly harmless. But passively, he is just the tool to be used by his influential relatives for the perpetration of great wrong — His capacities do not equal the ambitious views of his own family — his professional career has always been strictly confined to Chambers, if he ever did any business at all — his lectures at Cambridge were a perfect failure & his removal thence was necessary for the welfare of the Law-school, and the Curtises. C. P. & B. R. & Sohier's boosted him into the Probate office to give him a decent living while he was to act the slave catcher to boost B. R. Curtis into office of Judge — To many minds he has assumed a very important position. his cool & dignified correspondence really partakes of Triumvirate dignity, and to one acquainted with him is recognized not as the "rash humour" of his mother, so much as that of his wife's relatives — This "Prophet Chow" business

Boston, March 11th 1858

Wm. L. Garrison.

Dr Sir.

21 A man (like yr. devoted to a cause, in importance to the welfare of humanity, second only to Christianity itself, if it does not embrace it,) may perhaps not find a word of thanks unacceptable, even if it come from one of the humblest of the citizens of yr Commonwealth. When I see yr stand foremost in rank of virtuous men, bearing the whole assault of vituperation & insult, from the vilest & most able Champion of Slavery (Caleb Cushing), I cannot refrain from wishing you from the bottom of my heart 'God speed.' I & pray you in the name of all that is sacred not to let yr moral flag in the cause you advocate. I & assure you that thousands of yr fellow Citizens, unconnected with any antislavery party (except so far as common sense of humanity dictates) glory in yr cause even as you do. and sympathize with you in every opposition it meets with.

I will not trespass upon yr time further than to hope that you know the personal, social, & political character of that Cushing as well as thousands of others know it. Why, is it in the Providence of God that such a wretch should be endowed with such brilliant talents? His antecedents are too infamous to be rehearsed; and we have the satisfaction of knowing, that if the people at large are not acquainted with the particulars of his infamy, yet the public, even his admirers & partizans) condemn him as devoid totally of principle